

Appln. No. 10/220,034
Amd. dated November 21, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 23, 2003

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical device for insertion into a body, the device having at least one surface covered by and attached to at least one detachable cover, the cover being detachable from the surface and removed from the body while after the device ~~is~~ has been inserted in the body.

2. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 1, the device being selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

- OS
Starts that expand
to break cover
- (a) a catheter;
 - (b) a cannula;
 - (c) drain;
 - (d) a stent;
 - (e) a pacemaker; and
 - (f) an electrode.

3. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the surface is an inner surface.

4. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the surface is an outer surface.

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5. (currently amended) The device according to Claim 1 having at least two detachable covers, each cover being detachable from the surface and removed from the body while the device is ~~inserted in~~ within the body.

6. (Original) The device according to Claim 5 wherein the at least two covers are identical.

7. (Original) The device according to Claim 5 having two covers with different properties.

8. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover is formed from a material selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

- (a) rubber;
- (b) silicone rubber;
- (c) polyvinylchloride ~~polyvinylchloride~~; PNC
- (d) latex;
- (e) woven metal mesh; and
- (f) parylene.

9. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover is formed from a biocompatible material.

10. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover is formed from a non-allergenic material.

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11. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover has a smooth surface.

12. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover has a rough surface.

13. (Original) The device according to Claim 5 containing an antibiotic between two adjacent covers.

14. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the cover is reversibly attached to a surface by ~~means of~~ elastic forces in the cover.

15. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover is detached detachable from the surface by tearing the cover.

16. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover is ~~tern~~ tearable along one or more preformed seams or perforations in the cover.

17. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 comprising a blade slidable over the surface so as to cut the cover and detach the cover from the surface.

18. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the surface is a surface of a slender shaft associated with the device.

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19. (currently amended) ~~The device according to~~
~~Claim 18~~ A medical device for insertion into a body,
the device having at least one surface covered by at
least one detachable cover, the cover being detachable from the
surface and removed from the body while the device is within the
body,

wherein the surface is a surface of a slender shaft
associated with the device,

wherein the cover is formed from a strip of material,
the cover being attached to the shaft when wrapped around the
shaft in a helix, and the cover being detached from the shaft by
unwrapping the strip.

20. (Original) The device according to Claim 18
wherein further comprising a ring placed at a distal end of the
shaft to prevent materials from entering between the cover and
the surface.

21. (Currently Amended) The device according to
Claim 18 wherein the cover comprises an inner cylindrical shell
and an outer cylindrical shell, the inner and ~~out~~ outer
cylindrical shells each having a distal end and a proximal end,
the inner and outer cylindrical shells being attached to each
other at their proximal ends and at their distal ends.

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22. (Withdrawn) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover is formed by depositing on the surface a liquid and allowing the liquid to solidify on the surface.

23. (Withdrawn) The device according to Claim 22 wherein the liquid is deposited by brushing, spraying, or immersion.

24. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 comprising one or more balloons located between the cover and the surface, the cover being attached to the surface when the balloons are inflated, and detached from the surface when the balloons are not inflated.

25. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 in which the cover is impenetrable to microorganisms.

26. (Original) The device according to Claim 1 wherein the cover is impenetrable to water.

27. (currently amended) The device according to any one of the previous claims ~~[[in]]~~ and the cover stores and releases a substance.

28. (Currently Amended and withdrawn) The device according to Claim ~~[[32]]~~ 2 wherein the cover releases an anti-microbial or anti-fungal compound.

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29. (currently amended) ~~The device according to~~
~~Claim 1~~ A medical device for insertion into a body,
the device having at least one surface covered by at
least one detachable cover,

the cover being detachable from the surface and
removed from the body while the device is within the body,

wherein the surface is a surface of a slender shaft
associated with the device,

wherein the cover has two parallel rows of
perforations or seams separating a strip of the cover, the strip
being attached at a distal end to a first end of a cord and a
second end of the cord being accessible at a proximal end of the
device.

30. (Original) The device according to Claim 1
further comprising a cutter slidable along the surface of the
device, the cutter being configured to cut the cover when
sliding along the surface.


31. (Original) The device according to Claim 1
wherein the cover has a row of perforation such that when a
proximal end of the perforation is torn, the cover may be made
to slide over the surface in a proximal direction.

32. (Currently Amended and withdrawn) A system for
forming a cylindrical cover on a ~~mandrill~~ mandrel, comprising:

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- (a) a first reservoir containing a first suspension;
- (b) a wiper for removing a portion of the first suspension when applied onto the ~~mandrill~~ mandrel
- (c) a second reservoir containing a second suspension; and
- (d) a nozzle for applying the second suspension to the ~~mandrill~~ mandrel.

33. (Currently Amended and withdrawn) A system for transferring a cover from a ~~mandrill~~ mandrel to a cylindrical shaft of a device, comprising:

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- (a) a first chamber configured to receive the ~~mandrill~~ mandrel;
 - (b) a second chamber surrounding a portion of the first chamber, the first and second chambers having a common wall containing a plurality of pores;
 - (c) an outlet for evacuating the first and second chambers.

34. (new) A medical device for insertion into a living body, the device having at least one surface covered by and detachably attached to at least one detachable cover, and means for detaching said cover from the surface and removing said detached cover from the body while the device remains within the body and without damage to the living body.